

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03

H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 FEA-02 INT-08 DRC-01 /159 W

----- 127287

O R 281800Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6638

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, ECON, EEC

SUBJECT: CHEYSSON PROPOSAL FOR FINANCIAL AID TO LDCS -
AFFECTED BY HIGH OIL PRICES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1727

1. WELLENSTEIN, EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS, INFORMED AMBASSADOR GREENWALD THAT THERE HAD BEEN A
DISCUSSION IN THE PERM REPS ON MARCH 28 OF THE CHEYSSON

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PROPOSAL (REFTEL) FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LDCS

SUFFERING FROM THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS EFFECTS OF HIGHER OIL PRICES. WELLENSTEIN SAID THAT, THOUGH THERE WAS THE USUAL RANGE OF COMMENTS, THERE HAD BEEN A POSITIVE REACTION "FROM SEVERAL SIDES" ON THE POPOSAL.

2. WELLENSTEIN SAID THAT THE MATTER IS NOW ON THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 1-2 COUNCIL MEETING. HE BELIEVED THE COUNCIL MIGHT MAKE A DECISION ON HOW THE CHEYSSON PROPOSAL MIGHT BE USED AT THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WELLENSTEIN SAID HE COULD NOT TELL HOW THIS WOULD COME OUT, BUT HE WANTED TO LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE THAT THERE IS A CHANCE THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL RAISE THE PROPOSAL IN THE SPECIAL SESSION.

3. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD RESPONDED THAT THOUGH WE WERE APPRECIATIVE OF THE INFORMATION, THE TIME WAS VERY SHORT FOR PROPER CONSULTATION BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING. WELLENSTEIN ADMITTED THIS POINT BUT SAID THAT IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HE HAD CALLED TO INFORM AMBASSADOR GREENWALD. WELLENSTEIN SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN SURPRISED THAT THE PERM REPS HAD BEEN ABLE TO HOLD A SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW COMMISSION PROPOSAL. THIS WAS VERY FAST MOVEMENT FOR THE USUALLY SLOW-MOVING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. IT MIGHT INDICATE A DESIRE TO SHOW A UNITED POSITION ON AT LEAST ONE SUBJECT DURING THE CURRENT TIME OF COMMUNITY MALIASE, AND COMMUNITY POLICY TOWARD LDCS WAS AT LEAST ONE FIELD WERE THEMEMBER STATES COULD GET TOGETHER.

4. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT DURING THE PERM REP DISCUSSION SEVERAL OF THE MEMBER STATES CRITICIZED THE COMMISSION FOR HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE CHEYSSON PROPOSAL BEFORE INFORMING THE MEMBER STATES OF THE PROPOSAL. GREENWALD

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